South Africa: Beyond Apartheid

ITINERARY | OCTOBER 5–OCTOBER 16, 2019

Join us on an insiders’ tour of this vast and beautiful country as we explore the changes and challenges since the end of apartheid 25 years ago, as the country reflects upon the recent 100th anniversary of Nelson Mandela’s birth.

OCTOBER 5: DEPART THE US

OCTOBER 6: CAPE TOWN  R, D

• Late afternoon arrival in Cape Town and a private transfer to the Taj Hotel.

• Enjoy a reception and light dinner this evening at the hotel.

OCTOBER 7: CAPE TOWN  B, L, D

• Meet for a short walking tour of the area around hotel, including the Slave Lodge and Greenmarket Square.

• Drive to the District Six Museum for a private tour of the museum which celebrates the once-lively multiracial area that was destroyed during apartheid in the 1960’s and 1970’s when its 60,000 inhabitants were forcibly removed.

• Drive to Khayelitsha, South Africa’s largest township. Joining the group to provide personal insights will be Thando Sekame. Born in jail to a mother who had been arrested for acts of defiance against the state, like Trevor Noah he grew up as a Xhosa child battling issues of identity and was a member of the Liberation Movement.

• Visit the Bamphulele’s Education Center and Children’s Home. Meet with founder Rosalia Mashale, a remarkable woman and one of CNN’s Top 10 Heroes of 2017. Enjoy a simple, traditional lunch at Rosie’s and learn about her work.
• Stop at the Isivivana Centre, a creative space which is home to a number of social change organizations and charities as well as a library, cafe and the sophisticated Bertha Movie House.

• Enjoy dinner at the Gold Restaurant, which honors African culinary traditions. A 14-dish tasting menu will be served and there will be traditional music and dancing.

OCTOBER 8: CAPE TOWN

• Depart the hotel to meet with Justice Albie Sachs in his home in Clifton. A Freedom Fighter during the apartheid era, Judge Sachs helped create the new South African constitution, admired as one of the most progressive in the world. Hear first hand about his historic work and his tenure as one of the founding judges of the 11 seat Constitution Court. In 2005, Sachs wrote the opinion in the landmark decision legalizing same-sex marriage in South Africa.

• Enjoy lunch at the Bungalow, a charming restaurant with views of the ocean.

• Meet with Dare to Know, an activist organization and law center that brings together movement building, research, and litigation in campaigns to advance urban land justice in Cape Town with its campaign “Reclaim the City.”

• Late this afternoon drive to Bo Kaap, known for its colourful houses many of which are national monuments and date back to the 1750’s, with cobbled streets that rise up to meet the lower slopes of Signal Hill. The local inhabitants are 90% Muslim and a blend of cultures that descend from slaves imported by the Dutch in the 1700’s. Enjoy a lively cooking class and delicious dinner in the home of a local restauranteur - learn the secrets of Malay cooking! (please note there will be no alcohol served).

OCTOBER 9: CAPE TOWN

• After breakfast, weather permitting, take a cable-car ride up iconic Table Mountain. A nature reserve floating above the city’s heart. Table Mountain is Cape Town’s most famous sight. We’ll ride in revolving cable cars which allows one to take in the lovely panorama on the way up and down. The view from the top is wonderful – we’ll see tiny Robben Island, the majestic cliffs of the Twelve Apostles, the Cape Town cityscape and the rugged coast below.

• Return to Cape Town and proceed to the Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art, the world’s largest non-profit museum of contemporary African art and the first of its kind to be established in Africa. We will have a chance to view the current exhibition on display “All Things Being Equal”.

• Enjoy lunch at the scenic Victoria and Alfred Waterfront.

• Catch a ferry to Robben Island. For nearly 400 years, Robben Island was a place of banishment, exile, isolation and imprisonment. It was here that rulers sent those they regarded as political troublemakers. During the apartheid years Robben Island became internationally known for its institutional brutality. Some freedom fighters spent more than a quarter of a century in prison for their beliefs. Perhaps the most famous prisoner was Nelson Mandela. Our tour here will be led by a former political
prisoner who will provide a very special insight into the hardships endured by many South Africans.

- Dinner at leisure this evening.

**OCTOBER 10: CAPE TOWN**  
**B, L**

- Walk to the nearby office of the **Monkeybiz Bead Project** which began in 1999 as a shared vision to regenerate the indigenous art of beadwork, while creating employment opportunities for women in the most under-resourced areas of the Western Cape. The Monkeybiz Bead Project also supports a Wellness Center, which provides healthcare, nutrition and yoga classes for bead artists living with HIV. Their whimsical and colorful beaded creatures will enchant you!

- Meet with **Pregs Govender**, a well-known activist in South Africa. A former ANC Member of Parliament, she convened the gender and economic group of the finance committee and chaired Parliament’s committee on women. She is widely respected for her role in advancing gender responsive budgets. Govender is the author of *Love and Courage: A Story of Insubordination*, which traces her origins from the poverty she experienced at the hands of apartheid, her role as a mother, wife, outspoken activist against HIV/AIDS and a determined advocate of women’s rights.

- After the meeting drive to Stellenbosch and the the home of **Nondumiso Pikashe** for lunch. Nondumiso, a former teacher from the Langa Township, launched the wine label **Ses’fikile Wines** in 2007. Nondumiso has said of her wines, “I want Ses’fikile wines to be an indigenous brand of note, a brand that trumpets the African Renaissance, that connects nations and brings women together.” During lunch there will be a chance to sample some of her wines.

- After lunch we will visit a winery to sample some more renowned South African wines and also enjoy time in the town of Stellenbosch before returning to Cape Town. The lovely historical university town of Stellenbosch is located in the center of viticulture. Founded in 1679 it is home to stunning Dutch architecture and a community of artists.

- Tonight dinner is at leisure.

**OCTOBER 11: JOHANNESBURG**  
**B, L, D**

- Fly to Johannesburg and check-in to the **African Pride Melrose Arch, Autograph Collection**. The five-star African Pride Melrose Arch Hotel is located in an area north of Johannesburg within South Africa’s bustling Gauteng province. This contemporary hotel in Johannesburg features unique architecture and a sophisticated design.
• Visit Constitution Hill, site of the Old Fort Prison, now a museum, where political prisoners including Nelson Mandela and Mohandas Gandhi had once been held. The complex of buildings on the hill collectively came to represent, above all other things, human indignity, suffering and sheer inhumanity. Over the last few years, these buildings have been open to the public as a way of educating and providing perspective. The new Constitutional Court, an architectural masterpiece, is home to a fine collection of art.

• Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.

• After lunch, enjoy a guided tour of Constitution Hill by one of the top young law clerks for an insiders view of the complex and its history.

• Meet with Dr. Shireen Hassim at Wits University. A professor of politics at Wits, she is co-editor of many books and author of Women’s Organizations and Democracy in South Africa: Contesting Authority, which won the 2007 American Political Science Association’s Victoria Shuck Award for best book on women and politics.

• Walk to dinner this evening at a local restaurant. Joining the group for dinner will be Prince Mashele, a well-known commentator on South African politics. He is the co-author of the best-selling book The Fall of the ANC: What Next? Prince is an influential and provocative thinker who has written articles for South Africa’s top newspapers, including the Sunday Times, Sunday Independent, Business Day, Sowetan and others.

• Depart the hotel and drive to the Gallery Momo which is located in Parktown North. Owned by Monno Mokoena it features local contemporary work that goes beyond the label “modern” and deals with more than one type of media. It is one of the few galleries in South Africa not owned by whites.

• Return to the campus of the University of Witwatersrand and visit the wonderful Origins Center, a world-class museum that traces the evolution of humans in Africa and aims to provide visitors with a unique experience of Africa’s rich, complex and sometimes mysterious past.

• Enjoy lunch at the serenely beautiful Satyagraha House which is located in the residential neighbourhood of Orchards in Johannesburg, and was the home of Mohandas Gandhi from 1908 to 1909.

• Joining the group for lunch will be Steven Friedman, a South African academic, newspaper columnist and former trade unionist. He directs the Centre for the Study of Democracy, a joint project by Rhodes University and the University of Johannesburg. His book Building Tomorrow Today: African Workers in Trade Unions 1970-1984 has been described as a classic South African text.

• End the day with a visit the Apartheid Museum which opened in 2001 and is acknowledged as the pre-eminent museum in the world dealing with 20th century South Africa, at the heart of which is the apartheid story.

• Dinner is at leisure tonight.

October 12: Johannesburg

• Drive to Soweto which, from its genesis, was a product of segregationist planning created to house mainly black laborers who worked in mines and other industries in the city. Soweto has been a hotbed of many political campaigns, the most memorable of which was the 1976 student uprising when Hector Peterson was shot and killed.

• The area has spawned many political, sporting and social luminaries, including Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu – two Nobel Peace Prize Laureates, who once lived on the now famous Vilakazi Street in Orlando West.

• Enjoy a wonderful traditional lunch at Sakhumzi Restaurant.
• After lunch explore Soweto. Visit places such as the former men’s hostel in Mzhimhlope and learn about the history of mine workers and the conditions they lived in. Continue walking to the Hector Peterson Memorial site and learn about the Student’s Uprisings on 16 June 1976. Walk down Vilakazistreet to view the former home of Nelson Mandela as well as where Bishop Desmond Tutu lives.

• Return to the hotel at the end of the day.

• Tonight dinner is at leisure.

OCTOBER 14: THORNYBUSH  

• This morning, take a flight to a small airport in Hoedspruit. Upon arrival drive about 20 minutes to check-in at Thornybush Waterside Lodge or similar.

• Thornybush Game Lodge is situated adjacent to the Greater Kruger National Park (larger than the country of Israel) within the famous Thornybush Nature Reserve. The private reserve is home to an abundance of species: 147 mammals including the “Big Five”, 114 reptiles, 507 birds, 49 fish, 34 amphibians and 336 trees. The reserve is predominantly open savannah and with a near perfect year round climate.

• Each day will include an early morning wake up call, tea/coffee, a 3 hour open vehicle safari, breakfast, an optional game walk, leisure time and swim, lunch, afternoon siesta and afternoon tea, a 3 hour open vehicle afternoon-into-night safari, and a divine dinner.

• Meet for a tea and light refreshments.

• Depart on a late-afternoon safari stopping en route for sundowners (happy hour!).

• Enjoy dinner this evening at the lodge.

OCTOBER 15: THORNYBUSH.

• Joining us for breakfast will be scientists from Kruger National Park to learn more about the research that they are involved in. We’ll also hear about anti-poaching efforts in the park.

• This full day will be spent enjoying two game drives and a game walk, fully inclusive. It will include an early morning wake up call, tea/coffee, a 3 hour open vehicle safari, breakfast, an optional game walk, leisure time and swim, lunch, afternoon siesta and afternoon tea, a 3 hour open vehicle afternoon-into-night safari, and a wonderful dinner.

OCTOBER 16: JOHANNESBURG/DEPART

• Early morning excursion followed by breakfast. Balance of morning at leisure. After lunch return by air to Johannesburg for international flights home.
TRIP PRICE

Per person double occupancy: $7,295
Single supplement: $1,540
Internal Airfare: $510

Economy class flights from Cape Town to Johannesburg; Johannesburg to Hoedspruit (Thornybush) and Hoedspruit (Thornybush) to Johannesburg

INCLUDES

- Accommodation, based on double occupancy, in hotels as listed, or similar
- Two nights at the Thornybush Waterside Lodge (or similar) which includes 2 safari rides a day, early morning tea/coffee and snacks, breakfast, lunch, tea, sundowners and dinner daily
- Meals as listed in the itinerary including a welcome cocktail reception in Cape Town
- Water on the bus at all times
- All sightseeing and excursions in a private air-conditioned bus
- All private events and speakers as listed
- All entrance fees listed
- Services of an English-speaking local guide/tour manager who will travel with the group from the beginning to end and act as a local guide in Cape Town
- Services of a local guide in Johannesburg
- Porterage
- Gratuity to tour manager/guides and bus driver

NOT INCLUDED

- International airfare to and from South Africa
- Flights within South Africa: $510 (see above)
- Drinks with meals
- Passport and visa fees
- Excess luggage charges
- Travel Insurance
- Items of a purely personal nature
- Any item not listed